

Kentucky Gazette.

REMARKS OF MR. A. B. JOHNSON,
In the Bank Convention.

MR. PRESIDENT: After the able discussion, to which we have listened, I should not address this convention had not some important topics escaped the scrutiny of the speakers who have preceded me. We are debating whether the banks shall or not designate a day on which they will resume specie payments.

In favor of a resumption, we have been reminded of our moral duty to resume. The duty is conceded, but gentlemen seem to think it may be dispensed with by confining duties to a superior urgency. We are accordingly told that a precipitated return of specie payments, before exchanges are on a par with specie, will depress every branch of national prosperity.

To my understanding, we are not debating the true issue. We are impelled to a resumption of specie payments by legal obligations. Who has conferred on us the right to dispense with our legal obligations? We are answerable to the law, we refuse specie, but we are not answerable, legally or morally, for the contraction of bank discounts so long as the contractors are necessary to enable us to fulfill our legal obligations. If the laws which require us to pay specie inflict an injury on the people, let the people ask a legal remedy; and let the Legislature and let Congress find a remedy if they can. Let not the banks presume to stand between the people and the law makers, and to decide that they will not obey such laws as they deem injurious to the people. The people ask no such protection at our hands. They receive our illicit services, I admit; but they receive, and complain while they receive. Like the unhappy females who nightly throng our streets, and whom also expediency may seek to justify, we are reviled and abused by even those whom we serve.

But again, why do we debate the morality and expediency of a resumption of specie payments, when the law is threatening us with penalties? The State of New York has given its banks a respite till May, and conferred even that boon at the expense of a total inhibition of bank dividends. The owners of thirty millions of the most active capital of the State, are thus compelled to bear not only all the evils of the law, but in common with other men, but the additional evil of receiving no interest on their capital—an interest to which many of them look for daily support of their families. As well, then, may the convict, with the halter around his neck, debate the expediency of capital punishment, as we debate the expediency of a resumption of specie payments. It may debate, but it will be executed.

Assuming, then, that both our legal and moral duties to resume specie payments, cannot be denied—and they certainly have not been denied in any of our discussions—what is the true question which we ought to consider? Our physical ability to resume specie payments. This is the only proper topic of discussion, and it has been wholly overlooked, though incidentally the ability has been by some gentlemen. Many of the States here represented have either voted with each other in noncommittal early periods at which they can resume, were they to disregard its consequences on the community. Pennsylvania professes an ability to resume in April; New York in March; and some other States at even an earlier period.

But while I insist that our physical ability to resume, is alone the question which we should deliberate, in order to designate the period at which we will resume specie payments, I dissent from the arguments which have been adduced to prove the disastrous effects of a resumption of specie payments on the exchange of gold and silver, and on the commerce of the country.

If, then, exchanges are to control us, we may resume to-morrow should a fall occur in exchanges, and we must suspend the next day should a rise again occur in exchanges.

But are not gentlemen aware that, instead of banks being thus controlled by the rate of exchange, to a great degree, controlled by banks? This must be a practical truth, or banks would be continually suspending and resuming. Some years ago, in a conversation with the late Lynde Calhoun (a name which cannot be heard here without respect), I asked how the banks were able to defend themselves from a ruinous fall in specie, which was then being tendered upon them. He replied, that the banks immediately lowered the rates of exchange by a contraction of their loans. Money, when scarce, cannot be obtained by many who would otherwise remit. Local purposes and speculations, also, in such times, divert money from being remitted; and hence exchange falls from a diminution of purchasers. Exportable produce flows from the country, and the money, and hence presents a profitable substitute for bills of exchange, and still further depresses them. Banks, therefore, he contended, were always able to defend themselves against an upward tendency of exchange; and hence I would contend that the influence which banks will now be required to exercise over the rate of exchange, is out of the ordinary exercise of a long accustomed power over the money market.

But in relation to our foreign debt, on whose magnitude the present and prospective high price of exchange is predicted by the gentlemen opposed to us, I dissent from the statistics which we have heard relate only to the commercial debt that is due to Europe; and in relation to that debt the calculations may be correct; but we throw wholly out of view the millions of State stocks which are daily being created by the several States, and which, directly or indirectly, are sent to Europe. We throw out of view also the millions of loans made constantly to Europe by private corporations—and millions that are sent here from Europe for investments, and the millions that are brought here by emigrants, and the millions of the existing commercial debt that are due from suspended and insolvent debtors. That these items, and I can name others, more than counterbalance and almost render insignificant the commercial balance, of which we have heard so much, is demonstrable from the otherwise anomalous fact that even since the suspension of specie payments, the import of specie has far exceeded the exports.

To swell the amount of our foreign indebtedness, the gentleman who represents the Bank of the United States, has informed us of a loan of seven millions of dollars, due from that bank, I presume, to the Bank of England, and which loan becomes payable within the year. Admit the fact; but will the loan be paid? I venture to say it will not be paid in reality, though it may be in form. It will be paid by a new obligation, must be continually falling due; but the superior interests which we can pay, and which induced to the creation by Europe of the original loans, must operate to the continuance of such loans. They will always exist; and hence their falling due is only a prelude to their renewal. But if the gentleman shall say that the loan will be paid without the creation of a new and equivalent debt, the fault will be his own. The payment must be made by the bank which the gentleman represents, and which, if it places, borrows, and keeps borrowing indefinitely, in Europe, a much larger sum than all the commercial balance which has been received here to make us continue in our illegal position of suspended banks.

Another reason assigned for the expediency of our not designating a day of resumption is, that the resolves of the Convention possessing no power to coerce the banks to conform to our resolutions. This is a reason in favor of our

designating a day of resumption. Were banks compelled to obey our designation, we might well tremble at the responsibility which we were assuming; but to the extent that our resolves are not obligatory, our mistakes will not necessarily be fatal, and to the extent that we shall err in our recommendations, the banks will be justified in disregarding our recommendations. Besides, that we cannot coerce the banks to conform to our resolutions might have been some reason for our not assembling in convention, but it can be no reason for withholding our advice, now we are assembled. Let us, then, perform our duty manfully, and if we shall succeed in designating a period when banks ought to resume payments, let those who bear the responsibility who shall think proper to disregard our designation.

We are told also that the designation of a day by this convention will excite expectations, which, if not realized, will be disastrous. I admit the position, but should we now adjourn without designating a day, we shall even now disappoint the expectations of the country. Let us, therefore, not create a certain disappointment from the fear that our actions may produce a disappointment hereafter.

In relation to the resolutions which have been offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts, and which decide against fixing a time for the resumption of specie payments, they appear to me as a mere screen to cover the failure to perform the most common place good intention, to perform the most common place duty, and all through the instrumentality of another convention to assemble in this city in April next. That convention is to be more extensive than the present. But what reasons exist for such an expectation? Our failure will give ominous presage of the inability of the convention; and will be a reflection on the honor of the United States has read to us the contract by which specie payments were resumed in 1816. The result was accomplished by the concert of New York, Philadelphia, and two or three other cities, all of whom are represented here. How this proves that the present convention, which represents eighteen States, is not general enough to resume specie payments, be failed to make me comprehend.

In some specious circumstances have been stated, which tend to prejudice a vote for the resumption of specie payments. The banks of New York are openly accused of officiousness and indelicacy in calling this convention. But where in truth did this convention originate? In South Carolina. The president of a bank who has filled the Chair of South Carolina, in a letter published in the State bank, and directed to the President of the United States, and addressed in a strain of only too much devotion to the person addressed, and to his institution, urged the propriety of a convention. The public press every where echoed the suggestion. The only difficulty apprehended was to find some adequate persons sufficient to perform the duty. The banks of New York, happily suggested. The banks of New York, and all other banks, long and discreetly, and in it themselves. Shall they now be troubled with the act?—I told repeatedly, as they have been in this body, that the convention is a New York measure, called to subvert the peculiar interests and liabilities of New York; and that the resumption of specie payments is pressed on the country, and the city are entitled to the right of self defense, but since to ensure them is the fashion, I also have a charge against them. I stand then of too much pertinacity in sustaining the great measure to which their call invites, I charge them with coming in this convention prepared sufficiently for neither offense nor defense. Except the venerable gentleman from New York, who has shown us his experience, and talents, has been the preliminary topic of every speaker who has sought to defeat his recommendations, who among all the city delegation has spoken in this controversy? Not one. The venerable gentleman is, I admit, a hero within himself, and while his character is not in question, it is forming as it is a part of the history of our country, and I am sensible that our praise or disparage, at this late day, must be equally indifferent to him. I will not imitate in eulogy the speakers who oppose him; I will show my reverence for his talents, wisdom, and experience, by endeavoring to fix an early day for the resumption of specie payments, agreeably to his recommendation.

Nothing, also, can be further from the fact than the reiterated assertion that the banks of New York feel any peculiar peril. The Legislature of New York has, we admit given her banks a license of suspension for no longer than some period in May; but should the banks continue suspended after that period, their situation will not be worse than that of the banks of other States who have tumbled into the same position. Look at the banks of Pennsylvania. When their suspension was sought to be placed under the protection of a law, the governor of the state published his refusal. The banks, he said, should be kept under the constant terror of the courts of justice, which, suspended over their heads, was to fall upon them suddenly, if they either failed in their debt, or lost for the convenience of the people, or called them to pay fast enough for an early resumption of specie payments. Within this dangerous strait the banks of Pennsylvania are now steering; and yet they assume that the efforts of New York for an early resumption of specie payments, is dictated by the peculiar peril of the banks of New York.

And what is the position of the banks of Massachusetts? The Legislature of that State, we are complacently informed, has not designated May as the termination of the period in which the suspension of payment shall be legalized. True; but we know the banks of Massachusetts are now in the position which the banks of New York will occupy after next May; that is, they are now liable momentarily to a forfeiture of their charters, and exist at the mere sufferance of the community.

New York, we are told also, will listen to no compromise, and is too pugnacious for the single measure that she advocates. But the question admits of no middle ground. New York will compromise as to the time of resumption. She desires March; but she will as a compromise agree to a later day; but she cannot compromise by agreeing to the suspension of the law. Instead of offering a compromise, that would be a defeat of the object for which this convention assembled. And, sir, permit me to say in conclusion, that should we adjourn without designating a day for the resumption of specie payments, we ought never to have assembled. The period of our meeting is full of interest, and many may deem it full of meaning. A Congress assembling in which topics are to be discussed of so much interest to banks, and a decision may be effected these discussions, and our decision may be obnoxious to the suspicion of being intended to affect them; and hence I heard with regret the remarks of some gentlemen, that we cannot resume payments till we learn first whether the sub treasury bill is to be enacted. To withhold our action till that question is decided, is to act on the question ourselves, and to act against it.

The lessons of experience are, I trust, not to be lost on us. What destroyed the United States Bank? Was it not a belief that such an institution is useless? No. It was destroyed in spite of its admitted great use to both government and people. It was destroyed because the people suspected that it was endeavoring to coerce the Government into a renewal of its charter. Shall the government conquer the banks, or shall the banks conquer the government, was the issue which rallied the country and overwheeled the bank. I say not that the bank was guilty of the charge against it;

but if it were innocent, the warning is stronger to us than if it were guilty. The people will correct the government, if they believe that the government is directly or indirectly acting injuriously on banks; but should the people only suspect that the banks are prolonging the suspension of specie payments, and thereby unnecessarily embarrassing the country, to goad the people into dissatisfaction with the government, they will sustain the government, and spurn the banks from the earth.

We must therefore avail, if possible, in our decision, not only all effect on government, but we must avoid all appearance of intending an effect. Nothing, however, can be more difficult. If we designate a day for the resumption of specie payments, persons may say that the designation at this moment is intended to prevent the passage of the sub treasury bill; and if we adjourn without designating a day, we may be liable to the suspicion of intentionally embarrassing the fiscal condition of the nation, for the purpose, on the part of some of us, of forcing on the Government a National Bank, or some equally sinister purpose. The dilemma is painful; and I am aware of only one way in which we can pass through it with safety; and that is, to perform our duty. If our decision shall conform to our moral and legal obligations, we may aver that the admitted propriety of our decision will protect us from misrepresentation; if contrary to our moral and legal obligations, the imprudence of our decision will lead to misrepresentation, how pure soever may be our intentions. In this case, then, as in all others, the path of duty is the path of safety. And besides, nothing will be more difficult than to establish the probability of pure intentions should we adjourn without designating a day. The position of banks is beyond endurance. The humanity which turns one cheek when the other is smitten, is nothing compared with the humanity of banks. Threatened, taunted and despised for our not complying with our obligations, we say we will not comply from deference to the interest of the people who thus threaten, taunt and despise us. Can the people believe the banks are thus interested in anything but shame and ruin? You can judge, but I am satisfied that should we ever err in fixing a day, we shall err on the side of safety.

IN THE SENATE.
DISTURBANCES ON THE NORTHERN FRONTIER.
The CHAIRMAN communicated the following message from the President of the United States, on the subject of the war in Canada:
To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States:

Recent experience on the southern boundary of the United States, and the events now daily occurring on our northern frontier, have abundantly shown that the existing laws are insufficiently to guard against hostile invasion, from the United States, of the territory of friendly and neighboring nations.

The laws in force provide sufficient penalties for the punishment of such offenses, after they have been committed, and provided the parties can be found; but the Executive is powerless in many cases to prevent the commission of them, even when in possession of ample evidence of an intention on the part of evil-disposed persons to violate our laws.

Your attention is called to this defect in our legislation. It is apparent that the Executive ought to be clothed with adequate power effectually to restrain all persons within our jurisdiction from the commission of acts of this character. They tend to disturb the peace of the country, and inevitably involve the Government in perplexing controversies with foreign powers.

I recommend a careful revision of all the laws now in force, and such additional enactments as may be necessary to vest in the Executive full power to prevent injuries being inflicted upon neighboring nations by the unauthorized and unlawful acts of citizens of the United States, or of other persons who may be within our jurisdiction, and subject to our control.

In illustration of these views, and to show the necessity of an early action on the part of Congress, I submit herewith a copy of a letter received from the Marshal of the northern district of New York, who had been directed to repair to the frontier, and take all authorized measures to secure the faithful execution of existing laws.

M. VAN BUREN.
Washington, January 5, 1838.

The message, with the accompanying papers, having been read by the Secretary.

Mr. CLAY rose to express his full conviction of the necessity of some early action on this important subject. No spectacle could be more revolting to the feelings of a free people, than a war existing among themselves or with another country. The views of the Executive met his highest approbation, but the existing laws were not adequate to prevent the alleged interference of our citizens, others should be forthwith enacted for the full accomplishment of an object so desirable. Mr. C. advised, in connection, to the exonerators and must be State of our Northern boundary, which state of things tended to increase the danger which now threatened us. He had witnessed a similar course of policy on the part of our citizens during recent occurrences of a similar character in another quarter; on which subject, however, he had never expressed his opinion, nor should he do so now.

If the people of this country choose to renounce their citizenship, it was perhaps allowable; but any interference with a rebellion in a country with which we were at peace, should meet the earliest attention of our Government. We might, as citizens, freely, and in any manner we thought proper, express our sympathies with either belligerent party, but in no case lend them aid or countenance. He did not consider he had any right to express an opinion relative to the course of the Canadians. They might be right, or they might be wrong, in the course they were pursuing. It was the duty of every citizen to remain quiet, not even express opinions, till such expression had been made by the Government.

He hoped that to whatever committee the subject might be referred, they would examine with the greatest care and strictest scrutiny the question on both sides. Examine whether or not the action of our citizens had not been limited to some disputed territory, or whether arms, munitions of war, or supplies, had been furnished, and which, if proved true, such conduct must be viewed by Government as in the highest degree reprehensible.

He would express no opinion, nor make a motion as to the reference, but should think that either the Committee on the Judiciary or on Foreign Affairs the most appropriate.

Mr. CALHOUN had felt from the beginning of the troubles in Canada the greatest anxiety, and a fear that it might result in difficulties to this country. He hoped the existing laws, prohibiting the interference of our citizens, would be rigidly enforced; and if, on examination, they should be found insufficient to meet the exigencies of the case, that new ones would be speedily enacted. He would set forth in the strongest light the terrible consequence of a war with Great Britain at the present time.

He urged, in the most emphatic manner, the necessity of clothing the Executive with all useful additional power, if the laws in force were in this respect too limited. He moved the reference to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Mr. NORVELL said that no portion of the people of the United States were more deeply interested in this subject than the inhabitants of the State which he had the honor, in part, to represent. Between a part of that State and the Upper Province of Canada, there was a river, the dividing line, only of one mile wide. The peace of our citizens in that quarter was daily and hourly exposed to violation in the progress of this civil war in the adjacent Province. Persons belonging to both of the parties in this forcible contest would seek refuge, sympathy and aid from our people, among whom there might be individuals disposed to jeopard the neutrality and peace of the country, in their anxiety to strengthen the cause which they espoused. It was exceedingly desirable that this should, if possible, be prevented. Our own rights and liberties were too precious to be jeopardized in those premature and badly digested civil broils between different portions of the same foreign people. The honorable Senator from Kentucky had expressed the proper sentiment on this subject. But Mr. N. had only risen to express his earnest solicitude, that to whatever Committee the Executive message might be referred, an early and prompt report would be made. He only regretted that in other and previous cases of belligerent controversies between different portions of other foreign States, an equally rigid course of neutrality had not been pursued. He knew that, so far as the Executive had been concerned, all its means had been exerted to preserve our neutral position. But the laws were inadequate to the object, and ought to be revised and made stronger.

Mr. DAVIS most heartily concurred with the sentiments of the Senators who had preceded him, and also in the views of the Executive, on this momentous subject. Congress, he considered, were under the most sacred obligations to preserve the present pacific relations between ourselves and foreign powers. It was a duty we owed to ourselves and to other nations, to preserve to the utmost, obedience to the treaties existing, and to enforce rigidly their observance on the part of our citizens with such nations, while with them we continue at peace.

It seemed to him there had been too long manifested by our citizens a disposition to interfere with the affairs of our neighbors of the frontiers, and it would appear that the efforts of those whose duty it was to enforce the laws had urged on and encouraged such measures, rather than laboring to suppress them. He had no opinions to express relative to these facts, as connected with recent difficulties on our southern border, or in the affairs of Canada. It was a matter of deep regret that the Government had not more strictly enforced this duty, and equally did he regret that the attention of Congress had not been earlier called to the subject.

Some definite and decisive measures had now become necessary, in order effectually to preserve our good faith and character as a nation. If the Executive power was not strong enough, by all means enlarge it, by enacting new laws on the subject. Of all evils that could now befall this nation, the most deplorable in its effects would be a war with Great Britain.

We all well know the strength and power of that country, and equally well we know that our progress, improvement and success, is but a growing weakness. He would express his thanks to the Senator from Kentucky, (Mr. C.) for having made mention of our unhappy differences relative to the settlement of our northern boundary. He contended that it was more forcibly evident that our Government had too long slumbered and slept on this subject. Our difficulties would now, on this score, be greatly augmented. In entering into an investigation on the subject directly before Congress, it became also their imperative duty to investigate this matter also. It was due to the country to know whether Great Britain does or does not make practical use of this disputed territory. Whether, if there are not really roads and regular mails established throughout it is not a matter of practical utility; and if, over this same district, there have not been transmitted troops, munitions of war, and supplies of provisions, for the use of their forces. It is not to inquire, at this

time, if she has occupied the territory by a civil force or jurisdiction, but if she has no further made use of it than to carry troops across, her point is gained. It is all the privilege the Government of Great Britain would ask of us. It is all she wants. The territory is to her not worth having, except for such practical purposes.

After some remarks by Mr. BENTON in favor of the motion to commit, the documents were referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

NAVY ISLAND AND ITS VICINITY.

As the occurrences transpiring at Navy Island and its vicinity are daily acquiring a deeper interest and increasing importance, we have caused to be engraved for insertion in the *American* the following diagram of Niagara river, from its head at Lake Ontario down to the Falls of Niagara. The diagram it will be seen, shows the relative position of Navy Island, Grand Island, Schlosser, Chipewyan, and other points which are constantly referred to in the news of the day, and its publication will assist our readers in more readily comprehending the late and future movements of the several parties.

Navy Island, (where the Insurgent camp is now established) is situated two miles above the Niagara Falls, within half a mile of the Canada and a mile and a half of the American shore. The north end of Grand Island covers about one third of Navy Island, (by drawing a parallel line from it. Between the two islands the current is rapid but not so rapid as it is between Navy Island and the Canada shore—the distance between which is a trifle over half a mile. It is said to be impossible for a boat to make its way from the Canada shore to Navy Island, in a direct line.—The current would carry it below the island, and, unless skillfully managed, below the Falls.

The Niagara river here, takes a direction almost due north, and the only possible way for a landing to be effected by the royalists would be to start from some point, a mile or two above, move partially with the current, and strike upon the south point of the island. If no resistance should be made, this could be very easily accomplished; but it is supposed the discharge of a few pieces of ordnance—laden with grape shot—upon the fleet of boats which would be necessarily employed upon such an expedition, would so maim them as either to sink them, or make them so unmanageable as to be carried with the current over the falls. It is the knowledge of this fact which prevented more than fifteen from volunteering their services for an attack upon the island. The thunders of the mighty cataract were said to be far more eloquent than the harangue of Gov. Head.

Chippewa is about half a mile below the north point of Navy Island. The troops on the Canadian shore are principally quartered in two large taverns directly opposite the centre of the Island.

It will be seen by the diagram that the National boundary line runs between Grand and Navy Island, and the only safe landing to be effected on the latter, is from the northern extremity of the former. Grand Island, however, is a part of the American territory, the neutrality of which must be violated by the British troops if they attempt to pass to it for the purpose of more easily reaching Navy Island.

MOST HORRIBLE.

We learn from a source which we have no reason to doubt that a horrible murder was committed, during last week, at a house a short distance this side of Springfield, in this State. We have the name of the person who lived in the house, but until the facts are fully ascertained by a regular investigation, we do not consider it our duty to mention it. The circumstances are as follows: A poor woman, with two children, was travelling to Springfield, when night overtook her, just as she reached the above mentioned house, where she applied for lodgings until morning, which request was readily granted. A short time after a gentleman on horseback arrived, and likewise applied for lodging. After supper, the lady was showed to her chamber, where, being wearied with travel, she soon fell asleep. She was aroused in the night by a noise which she thought resembled a person strangling, and immediately after she imagined that she heard blood running on the floor. Her terror was great but doubly increased when she heard some one in the adjoining room ask, "what shall we do with the old lady?" "Murder her to be sure," replied a second voice. "But the children?" inquired the first speaker; "it will be hard to kill them." "Well, then," said the second, "we will ascertain if she is asleep, and if so, we will let her go in the morning, but if not she must die." The lady had sufficient for sense and presence of mind to appear to her room to be in a sound sleep. In the morning, they suffered her to depart with her children. She had not gone far until she met a man on foot, who stopped her, and inquired, where she stayed the previous night? She replied at the first house. What kind of people live there asked the man. They were very kind to me she replied. The stranger passed on, and she had not proceeded far before a second man accosted her with "where she stayed last night?" answered him in the same strain as she had replied to the first. He passed on, and she was met by a third, who proposed similar questions, and received similar answers. At length she arrived at Springfield, and lost no time in informing the proper authorities all she had seen and heard. A

body of men were procured, and proceeded to the house designated. The murderers were taken by surprise, and all secured. The house was then searched, and the body of a murdered man found in the cellar, and also the sum of \$13,000 was found supposed to be the property of the victim. By next week, we will probably learn further particulars, and the name of the unfortunate man.—*Quincy (Ohio) Argus.*

EXEMPLARY DAMAGES.—An action for damages was recently tried at Saratoga, New York, in which Mr. S. Lincoln, of Boston, was plaintiff, and the Saratoga and Schenectady Rail Road Company defendants. It appeared in evidence that in August of 1836, Mr. L. and his lady left Saratoga Springs for Schenectady in the rail road cars drawn by horses, and when about a quarter of a mile from the village, at a sharp curve, a train drawn by a locomotive was seen approaching, and the two came in collision. Mr. Lincoln leaped from his seat in the foremost car and broke his thigh, in consequence of which he was confined for seven or eight weeks, and incurred an expense of \$700. It was also shown that his commercial losses, in consequence of his absence, were about \$5000. The agent of the company had omitted to send a person to the short curve to see if any train was approaching, as is usually done, and it was also known that the locomotive was expected at Saratoga about the time the accident took place.

After retiring for an hour and a half, the jury rendered a verdict for the plaintiff for Eight Thousand Dollars. The defendants, it is stated, will move for a new trial.—*Balt. Amer.*



BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.
A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS, information having been received of a dangerous excitement on the northern frontier of the United States, in consequence of the civil war begun in Canada, and instructions having been given to the United States officers on that frontier, and applications having been made to the Governors of the adjoining States to prevent any unlawful interference on the part of our citizens in the roughest unfortunately commenced in the British Province; additional information has just been received, that, notwithstanding the proclamations of the Governors of the State of New York and Vermont, exhorting their citizens to refrain from any unlawful acts within the territory of the United States; and, notwithstanding the presence of the civil officers of the United States, who, by my directions, have visited the scenes of commotion with the view of impressing the citizens with a proper sense of their duty, the excitement, instead of being appeased, is every day increasing in degree—that arms and munitions of war, and other supplies, have been procured by the insurgents in the United States—that a military force, consisting, in part at least, of citizens of the United States, had been actually organized, had congregated at Navy Island, and were still in arms under the command of a citizen of the United States, and that they were constantly receiving accessions and aid;

Now, therefore, to the end that the authority of the laws may be maintained, and the faith of treaties observed, I, MARTIN VAN BUREN, do most earnestly exhort all citizens of the United States who have thus violated their duties to return peacefully to their respective homes; and I hereby warn them, that any persons who shall compromise the neutrality of this Government by interfering in an unlawful manner with the affairs of the neighboring British Provinces, will render themselves liable to arrest and punishment under the laws of the United States, which will be rigidly enforced; and, also, that they will receive no aid or countenance from their Government into whatever difficulties they may be thrown by the violation of the laws of their country, and of the territory of a neighboring and friendly nation.

Given under my hand at the city of Washington, the fifth day of January, A. D. 1838, and the sixty second of the independence of the United States.
M. VAN BUREN.

By the President:
JOHN F. RUSSELL, Sec. of State.

Notice.

I HAVE this day sold my entire STOCK OF GROCERIES to Messrs. CARTY & COOK, and I take great pleasure in recommending my customers and friends to continue their patronage to my successors. All those indebted to me by note or account, will please call and pay by early a day as possible, at the old stand.
J. J. FLEMING.

Jan. 4, 1838.—1-1.

THE undersigned have this day purchased of Mr. J. J. FLEMING, his entire STOCK OF GROCERIES, and have entered into partnership under the name of CARTY & COOK. They will continue the GROCERY BUSINESS at the stand lately occupied by J. J. Fleming, and intend keeping constantly on hand a first rate assortment of GROCERIES and LIQUORS, which they offer at either Wholesale or Retail.
JOHN CARTY, Jr.
ISAAC COOK.

Jan. 4, 1838.—1-1.

